

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1 (previously presented). A method of processing information about a magnetic ink character recognition (MICR) encoded document having associated therewith a stored image and an error in a stored data field read from the MICR encoded document, the method comprising:

determining if the stored data field includes routing information;

forwarding at least one of the stored image and the document when the stored data field has the error but does not include routing information;

performing an optical character recognition (OCR) process on at least one portion of the stored image of the document, wherein the at least one portion substantially corresponds to the stored data field;

applying an image-based correction to the error in the stored data field using a comparison of a result of the OCR process and the stored data field, wherein the correction is applied subject to a minimum confidence level; and

displaying only the image to an operator for correction when the minimum confidence level for the correction is not met.

2 (previously presented). The method of claim 1 wherein the performing of the OCR process on the at least one portion of the image of the document further comprises:

determining if the stored data field includes an amount; and

performing the OCR process on a plurality of portions of the stored image of the document, wherein each of the plurality of portions corresponds to the amount.

3 (cancelled).

4 (previously presented). The method of claim 2 wherein the plurality of portions consists of three portions substantially corresponding to a written amount, a MICR amount, and printed numerical amount.

5-8 (cancelled).

9 (currently amended). A computer-readable medium ~~computer program product~~ to enable at least a portion of the processing of information about magnetic ink character recognition (MICR) encoded documents, a plurality of the MICR encoded documents each having associated therewith an error in a stored data field, the computer-readable medium ~~computer program product~~ comprising:

- instructions for receiving images of the MICR encoded documents;

- instructions for determining if the stored data field associated with a document includes routing information and forwarding at least one of a stored image and the document when the stored data field has the error but does not include routing information;

- instructions for performing an optical character recognition (OCR) process on at least one portion of the stored image of the document, wherein the at least one portion substantially corresponds to the stored data field containing the error;

- instructions for applying an image-based correction to the error in the stored data field using a comparison of a result of the OCR process and the stored data field, wherein the correction is applied subject to a minimum confidence level; and

- instructions for displaying only the stored image to an operator for correction when the minimum confidence level for the correction is not met.

10 (currently amended). The computer-readable medium ~~computer program product~~ of claim 9 wherein the instructions for performing the OCR process on the at least one portion of the image of the document further comprise:

- instructions for determining if the stored data field includes an amount; and

- instructions for performing the OCR process on a plurality of portions of the stored image of the document, wherein each of the plurality of portions corresponds to the amount.

11 (cancelled).

12 (currently amended). The computer-readable medium ~~computer program product~~ of claim 10 wherein the plurality of portions consists of three portions substantially corresponding to a written amount, a MICR amount, and a printed numerical amount.

13-16 (cancelled).

17 (previously presented). Apparatus for processing information about magnetic ink character recognition (MICR) encoded documents, a plurality of the MICR encoded documents each having associated therewith an error in a stored data field, the apparatus comprising:

means for receiving images of the MICR encoded documents;

means for determining if the stored data field associated with a document includes routing information and forwarding at least one of a stored image and the document when the stored data field has the error but does not include routing information;

means for performing an optical character recognition (OCR) process on at least one portion of the stored image of the document, wherein the at least one portion substantially corresponds to the stored data field containing the error;

means for applying an image-based correction to the error in the stored data field using a comparison of a result of the OCR process and the stored data field, wherein the correction is applied subject to a minimum confidence level; and

means for displaying only the stored image to an operator for correction when the minimum confidence level for the correction is not met.

18 (previously presented). The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the means for performing the OCR process on the at least one portion of the stored image of the document further comprises means for performing the OCR process on a plurality of portions of the image of the document, wherein each of the plurality of portions corresponds to an amount.

19 (cancelled).

20 (previously presented). The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the stored data field corresponds to an amount and wherein the plurality of portions consists of three portions substantially corresponding to a written amount, a MICR amount, and printed numerical amount.

21-24 (cancelled).

25 (previously presented). A system for processing magnetic ink character recognition (MICR) encoded documents comprising:

- at least one workstation;

- a sorter to sort and read the MICR encoded documents, wherein reading each of a plurality of the MICR encoded documents results in an association therewith of an error in a stored data field; and

- a computing platform operatively connected to the sorter and the at least one workstation, the computing platform operative to forward a document when the stored data field does not include routing information and to perform an optical character recognition (OCR) process on at least one portion of a stored image of the document after the document has been forwarded, and apply an image-based correction to the error in the stored data field using a comparison of a result of the OCR process and the stored data field, wherein the correction is applied subject to a minimum confidence level;

- wherein only the stored image is displayed to an operator for correction when the minimum confidence level for the correction is not met.

26 (previously presented). The system of claim 25 wherein the computing platform is further operable to perform the OCR process on a plurality of portions of the stored image of the document in order to apply the correction to the error and wherein each of the plurality of portions corresponds to an amount.

27 (previously presented). The system of claim 26 wherein the plurality of portions consists of three portions substantially corresponding to a MICR amount, a written amount and a printed numerical amount.

28-30 (cancelled).